

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 741

By Hood

A RESOLUTION to commend and congratulate Dr. Jette Halladay upon her receipt of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching Tennessee Professor of the Year award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding educators who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jette Halladay is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, a professor of speech and theater at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU), Dr. Halladay was recently named Tennessee Professor of the Year by the prestigious Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Professors of the Year program, sponsored by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, is the only national program that rewards excellence in undergraduate teaching; and

WHEREAS, as Tennessee Professor of the Year, Dr. Jette Halladay represents the thousands of dedicated university and college instructors throughout Tennessee who serve their students, community, and state with great distinction and skill; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Halladay began her illustrious tenure with MTSU in 1994 as an Assistant Professor, and ten short years later, she achieved the rank of full Professor; and

WHEREAS, as a Professor at MTSU, Dr. Halladay not only teaches a number of courses, including Child Drama, Theatre in Education, Drama Across the Curriculum, and Storytelling, but also advises students, directs Children's Theatre productions, serves on

university committees, participates in public service and community outreach programs, and directs children's programming; and

WHEREAS, since her arrival in Tennessee in 1994, Dr. Halladay has endeavored to share her love of drama and the arts with the children of Rutherford County and Tennessee through the creation and implementation of countless programs and workshops designed to expose children to new ideas and experiences; and

WHEREAS, the children of Bradley Elementary School are some of the most fortunate recipients of Dr. Halladay's benevolence and philanthropy; for a number of years, Dr. Halladay has organized drama and arts programs specifically for the students of Bradley Elementary; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 1997, Dr. Halladay, in collaboration with one of her colleagues, designed and taught an interim unit on Tennessee Harvest for the fifth and sixth graders of Bradley Elementary; the next year, Dr. Halladay launched "Bradley Drama," an intense four-week drama role-playing adventure, that continues to be a successful and popular program amongst the students; and

WHEREAS, from 1999 to 2002, Dr. Halladay secured a number of grants to fund the Voices Arts Institute for Youth; an intensive summer program for youth from low-income families, the Voices program employs the arts to teach life skills and promote multi-cultural understanding; and

WHEREAS, since 1996, Dr. Halladay has been an instrumental figure in the Bradley Expansion project, which seeks to facilitate the expansion and development of a magnet school of Fine Arts; and

WHEREAS, an extremely compassionate educator, Dr. Halladay works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jette Halladay truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Halladay epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated professor who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Dr. Jette Halladay on receiving the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching Tennessee Professor of the Year award, commend her exceptional service to the students of Middle Tennessee State University and Bradley Elementary School, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.